

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 14306 240532Z

63

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 DHA-02 ORM-02 SCA-01 VO-03 INSE-00

OES-06 FBIE-00 SY-05 IO-13 /101 W

----- 082253

R 240455Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2448

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA

MAC OC SCOTT AFB IL

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 14306

CINCPAC AND MAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJECT: MIG 25

SUMMARY. WITH THE WORKING OUT OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR C-5  
MIG AIRLIFT, PUBLIC ATTENTION, RATHER THAN RECEDING, HAS  
CONTINUED TO BUILD. SOVIET AMBASSADOR POLYANSKY MADE  
ANOTHER PUBLICIZED PROTEST TO FONMIN. MEDIA IS FEATURING  
PREPARATION FOR PLANNED SEPTEMBER 24 AIRLIFT AND  
IS BUILDING THEME THAT JAPAN CAUGHT BETWEEN US AND  
SOVIET PRESSURE. END SUMMARY.

1. SOVIETS KEEP PRESSURE ON. ACCORDING TO FIRST EAST  
EUROPEAN DEP DIVDIR AOKI, SOVIET AMBASSADOR POLYANSKY  
CALLED ON DEP FONMIN ARITA SEPTEMBER 22 TO DELIVER  
SECOND STRONGLY WORDED SOVIET PROTEST ON MIG-25.  
SOVIET GOVERNMENT STATEMENT DESCRIBED AS "GROUNDLESS"  
CLAIM SET FORTH IN JAPANESE STATEMENT OF  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TOKYO 14306 240532Z

SEPTEMBER 20 (TOKYO 14178) THAT GOJ HAD RIGHT

TO TAKE MEASURES WITH MIG-25 ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE. CHARGING THAT JAPAN WAS UNDER INFLUENCE OF A THIRD POWER, POLYANSKY SAID PLANE WAS SOVIET NATIONAL PROPERTY AND SHOULD BE RETURNED IMMEDIATELY. POLYANSKY AGAIN CRITICIZED JAPANESE HANDLING OF THE PILOT BELENKO, CHARGING THAT HE WAS DRUGGED AND FORCED TO GO TO UNITED STATES, AND THAT AN AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE AGENCY HAD PARTICIPATED IN HIS DEPARTURE FROM JAPAN. POLYANSKY SAID GOJ WAS ENTIRELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE ILLEGAL ACTS. ITS UNFRIENDLY ATTITUDE COULD NOT BUT HAVE CONSEQUENCES FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS OF SOVIET-JAPANESE RELATIONS.

2. IN REPLY, ARITA AFFIRMED THAT BELENKO WENT TO UNITED STATES OF HIS OWN FREE WILL, AND THAT JAPAN WOULD NEVER USE NARCOTICS ON ANYONE IN SUCH A CASE. HE STUCK TO JAPANESE POSITION ON HANDLING OF MIG-25 AND REJECTED SOVIET CHARGE THAT JAPAN WAS INFLUENCED BY THIRD POWER IN ITS HANDLING OF INCIDENT.

3. AOKI SAID MEETING NOT AS TENSE OR STORMY AS FIRST CONFRONTATION SEPTEMBER 9. HOWEVER, WHILE NEITHER MAN RAISED VOICE, ATMOSPHERE OF CONVERSATION COULD HARDLY BE CALLED CORDIAL. LATER IN DAY AT FONOFF RECEPTION FOR NEW FONMIN KOSAKA, POLYANSKY REFERRED TO MIG-25 INCIDENT AS "EPISODE", SUGGESTING, AOKI IMPLIED, THAT DEFECTION WOULD ONLY HAVE TEMPORARY EFFECT ON SOVIET-JAPANESE RELATIONS.

4. JUST WHAT CONCRETE FORM SOVIET PIQUE MIGHT TAKE IS STILL OPEN TO QUESTION. AOKI, HOWEVER, INVITED EMBOFF'S ATTENTION TO PRESS SPECULATION THAT SOVIETS PLAN TO CANCEL VISITS TO JAPAN OF FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER PATOLICHEV (SCHEDULED FOR LATE OCTOBER TO RENEW TRADE AGREEMENT) AND FISH/INDUSTRY MINISTER ISHKOV (SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER TO WORK OUT ARRANGEMENTS TO CUT SOVIET HARASSMENT OF JAPANESE FISHERMEN). AOKI SAID GOJ HAD NO OFFICIAL WORD TO CONFIRM THIS SPECULATION BUT SAID HE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF REPORTS TURNED OUT TO BE TRUE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TOKYO 14306 240532Z

5. IN MEANTIME, MEDIA IS CARRYING BLOW-BY-BLOW ACCOUNTS OF PREPARATIONS TO REMOVE MIG-25 AIRCRAFT FROM HAKODATE TO HYAKURI. MEDIA HAS GIVEN FULL COVERAGE TO COMINGS AND GOINGS OF US AND JAPANESE PERSONNEL AT HAKODATE AND OF TASS REPORTS ON INCIDENT. MAJOR MEDIA SUBTHEME IS REPORTED DIFFERENCES BETWEEN FONOFF AND JDA OVER MIG EXAMINATION, WITH JDA PRESSING FOR LENGTHY COMPLETE INVESTIGATION AND FONOFF REPORTEDLY ARGUING FOR RAPID

COMPLETION TO PERMIT EARLY RETURN TO SOVIETS. SOHYO AND JSP ON SEPTEMBER 20 AND 21 DEMANDED THAT GOJ RETURN MIG TO USSR. JAPANESE DILEMMA OF RESPONDING TO CONFLICTING PRESSURES FROM US AND SOVIETS IS EMERGING AS VARIATION ON THIS THEME.

6. SEPTEMBER 23 PRESS REPORTS THAT FONMIN KOSAKA EXPECTS TO DISCUSS MIG QUESTION DURING MEETING WITH SOVIET FONMIN GROMYKO IN NEW YORK, IN ADDITION TO QUESTIONS OF GRAVES VISITS IN NORTHERN TERRITORIES AND SAFE FISHING. AND PRIM MINISTER MIKI IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID IN SPEECH TO FOREIGN POLICY RESEARCH GROUP SEPTEMBER 22 THAT HE HOPED TO HANDLE MIG QUESTION CAREFULLY AND THAT IT WOULD NOT HARM THE BASIS OF JAPAN-SOVIET RELATIONS.

7. MEANWHILE, ARRANGEMENTS ARE PROCEEDING SMOOTHLY FOR AIRLIFT OF MIG FROM HAKODATE TO HYAKURI DURING NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 24. AS NOTED COMUSJAPAN MIG REPORTS, USFJ AND JSDF HAVE ESTABLISHED SMOOTH AND EFFECTIVE RELATIONS THROUGHOUT OPERATION TO DATE.  
HODGSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY AIRCRAFT, DEFECTORS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976TOKYO14306  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760361-1305  
**From:** TOKYO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760921/aaaaarnn.tel  
**Line Count:** 139  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <09 SEP 2004 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MIG 25 SUMMARY. WITH THE WORKING OUT OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR C-5 MIG AIRLIFT, PUBLIC ATTENTION, RATHER THAN  
RECEDIN  
**TAGS:** MARR, PFOR, PINS, JA, UR, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006